

House of Representatives

File No. 627

General Assembly

February Session, 2022

(Reprint of File No. 379)

Substitute House Bill No. 5248 As Amended by House Amendment Schedule "A"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner April 25, 2022

AN ACT CONCERNING COLLATERAL CONSEQUENCES OF CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS ON OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 19a-14 of the 2022 supplement to
- 2 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
- 3 thereof (Effective October 1, 2022):
- 4 (a) The Department of Public Health shall have the following powers
- 5 and duties with regard to the boards and commissions listed in
- 6 subsection (b) of this section which are within the Department of Public
- 7 Health. The department shall:
- 8 (1) Control the allocation, disbursement and budgeting of funds
- 9 appropriated to the department for the operation of the boards and
- 10 commissions;
- 11 (2) Employ and assign such personnel as the commissioner deems
- 12 necessary for the performance of the functions of the boards and

- 13 commissions;
- 14 (3) Perform all management functions including purchasing, 15 bookkeeping, accounting, payroll, secretarial, clerical and routine
- 16 housekeeping functions;
- (4) Adopt, with the advice and assistance of the appropriate board or commission, and in accordance with chapter 54, any regulations which are consistent with protecting the public health and safety and which are necessary to implement the purposes of this chapter and chapters 368v, 369 to 375, inclusive, 378 to 381, inclusive, 383 to 388, inclusive, 398 and 399;
- 23 (5) Develop and perform all administrative functions necessary to 24 process applications for licenses and certificates;
- 25 (6) Determine the eligibility of all applicants for permits, licensure, 26 certification or registration, based upon compliance with the general 27 statutes and administrative regulations. The department may deny the 28 eligibility of an applicant for a permit or for licensure by examination, 29 endorsement, reciprocity or for reinstatement of a license voided 30 pursuant to subsection (f) of section 19a-88, voluntarily surrendered or, 31 by agreement, not renewed or reinstated pursuant to subsection (d) of 32 section 19a-17, or may issue a license pursuant to a consent order 33 containing conditions that must be met by the applicant if the 34 department determines that the applicant:
- 35 (A) Has failed to comply with the general statutes and administrative 36 regulations governing the applicant's profession;
- 37 (B) [Except] Has been found guilty or convicted as a result of an act
 38 which constitutes a felony under (i) the laws of this state, (ii) federal law,
 39 or (iii) the laws of another jurisdiction and which, if committed within
 40 this state, would have constituted a felony under the laws of this state,
 41 except any applicant for licensure as a barber under chapter 386, [or] a
 42 hairdresser and cosmetician under chapter 387 [, has been found guilty
 43 or convicted as a result of an act which constitutes a felony under (i) the

laws of this state, (ii) federal law or (iii) the laws of another jurisdiction

- and which, if committed within this state, would have constituted a
- 46 felony under the laws of this state or an embalmer and funeral director
- 47 under chapter 385;

57

58

59

60

61

62

63

64

65

66

67

68

69

70

71

72

73

74

- 48 (C) Is subject to a pending disciplinary action or unresolved 49 complaint before the duly authorized professional disciplinary agency 50 of any state, the District of Columbia, a United States possession or 51 territory, or a foreign jurisdiction;
- 52 (D) Has been subject to disciplinary action similar to an action 53 specified in subsection (a) of section 19a-17, as amended by this act, by 54 a duly authorized professional disciplinary agency of any state, the 55 District of Columbia, a United States possession or territory, or a foreign 56 jurisdiction;
 - (E) Has committed an act which, if the applicant were licensed, would not conform to the accepted standards of practice of the profession, including, but not limited to, incompetence, negligence, fraud or deceit; illegal conduct; procuring or attempting to procure a license, certificate or registration by fraud or deceit; or engaging in, aiding or abetting unlicensed practice of a regulated profession, provided the commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, gives notice and holds a hearing, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, prior to denying an application for a permit or a license based on this subparagraph; or
 - (F) Has a condition which would interfere with the practice of the applicant's profession, including, but not limited to, physical illness or loss of skill or deterioration due to the aging process, emotional disorder or mental illness, abuse or excessive use of drugs or alcohol, provided the commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, gives notice and holds a hearing in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, prior to denying an application for a permit or a license based on this subparagraph;
- 75 (7) Administer licensing examinations under the supervision of the sHB5248 / File No. 627

7 nb32467 File No. 027

76 appropriate board or commission;

82

83

84

85

86

87

88

89

90

91

92

93

94

95

96

97

98

- 77 (8) Develop and perform all administrative functions necessary to 78 process complaints against persons licensed by the department;
- (9) Consent to the approval or disapproval by the appropriate boards or commissions of schools at which educational requirements shall be met;
 - (10) Conduct any necessary review, inspection or investigation regarding qualifications of applicants for licenses or certificates, possible violations of statutes or regulations, and disciplinary matters. In connection with any investigation, the Commissioner of Public Health or the commissioner's authorized agent may administer oaths, issue subpoenas, compel testimony and order the production of books, records and documents. If any person refuses to appear, to testify or to produce any book, record or document when so ordered, a judge of the Superior Court may make such order as may be appropriate to aid in the enforcement of this section;
 - (11) Conduct any necessary investigation and follow-up in connection with complaints regarding persons subject to regulation or licensing by the department. In connection with any such investigation, the department may restrict, suspend or otherwise limit the license or permit of any person subject to regulation or licensing by the department pursuant to an interim consent order entered during the pendency of such investigation;
- 99 (12) With respect to any complaint filed with the department on or 100 after October 1, 2010, alleging incompetence, negligence, fraud or deceit 101 by a person subject to regulation or licensing by any board or 102 commission described in subdivision (1) to (8), inclusive, (12) to (14), 103 inclusive, or subdivision (16) of subsection (b) of this section:
- 104 (A) Upon request of the person who filed the complaint, provide such 105 person with information on the status of the complaint;

106

107

108

109

110

111

112

113

114

115

116

117

118

119

120

121

122

123

124

125

126

127

128

129

130

131

132

133

(B) Upon request of the person who filed the complaint, provide such person with an opportunity to review, at the department, records compiled as of the date of the request pursuant to any investigation of the complaint, including, but not limited to, the respondent's written response to the complaint, except that such person shall not be entitled to copy such records and the department (i) shall not disclose (I) information concerning a health care professional's referral to, participation in or completion of an assistance program in accordance with sections 19a-12a and 19a-12b, that is confidential pursuant to section 19a-12a, (II) information not related to such person's specific complaint, including, but not limited to, information concerning patients other than such person, or (III) personnel or medical records and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute an invasion of personal privacy pursuant to section 1-210, except for such records or similar files solely related to such person; (ii) shall not be required to disclose any other information that is otherwise confidential pursuant to federal law or state statute, except for information solely related to such person; and (iii) may require up to ten business days written notice prior to providing such opportunity for review;

- (C) Prior to resolving the complaint with a consent order, provide the person who filed the complaint with not less than ten business days to submit a written statement as to whether such person objects to resolving the complaint with a consent order;
- (D) If a hearing is held with respect to such complaint after a finding of probable cause, provide the person who filed the complaint with a copy of the notice of hearing issued pursuant to section 4-177, which shall include information concerning the opportunity to present oral or written statements pursuant to subsection (b) of section 4-177c; and
- 134 (E) Notify the person who filed the complaint of the final disposition 135 of such complaint not later than seven business days after such final 136 disposition;
- 137 (13) Perform any other function necessary to the effective operation

sHB5248 / File No. 627 5

of a board or commission and not specifically vested by statute in the

- 139 board or commission;
- 140 (14) Contract with a third party, if the commissioner deems
- 141 necessary, to administer licensing examinations and perform all
- 142 attendant administrative functions in connection with such
- 143 examination; and
- 144 (15) With respect to any investigation of a person subject to
- 145 regulation, licensing or certification by the department and in any
- disciplinary proceeding regarding such person, except as required by
- 147 federal law:
- (A) Not be denied access to or use of copies of patient medical records
- on the grounds that privilege or confidentiality applies to such records;
- 150 and
- (B) Not further disclose patient medical records received pursuant to
- the provisions of this subdivision or personnel records received during
- the course of the investigation. Patient records received pursuant to this
- subdivision or personnel records received during the course of the
- investigation shall not be subject to disclosure under section 1-210.
- 156 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 19a-17 of the general statutes is
- repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
- 158 1, 2022):
- 159 (a) Each board or commission established under chapters 369 to 376,
- inclusive, 378 to 381, inclusive, and 383 to 388, inclusive, and the
- 161 Department of Public Health with respect to professions under its
- 162 jurisdiction that have no board or commission may take any of the
- 163 following actions, singly or in combination, based on conduct that
- occurred prior or subsequent to the issuance of a permit or a license
- upon finding the existence of good cause:
- 166 (1) Revoke a practitioner's license or permit;
- 167 (2) Suspend a practitioner's license or permit;

- 168 (3) Censure a practitioner or permittee;
- (4) Issue a letter of reprimand to a practitioner or permittee;
- 170 (5) Restrict or otherwise limit practice to those areas prescribed by the 171 board, commission or department;
- 172 (6) Place a practitioner or permittee on probationary status and 173 require the practitioner or permittee to:
- 174 (A) Report regularly to such board, commission or department upon 175 the matters which are the basis of probation;
- 176 (B) Limit practice to those areas prescribed by such board, 177 commission or department; <u>and</u>
- 178 (C) Continue or renew professional education until a satisfactory 179 degree of skill has been attained in those areas which are the basis for 180 the probation;
- 181 (7) Assess a civil penalty of up to twenty-five thousand dollars;
- 182 (8) In those cases involving persons or entities licensed or certified 183 pursuant to sections 20-341d, 20-435, 20-436, 20-437, 20-438, 20-475, as 184 amended by this act, and 20-476, require that restitution be made to an 185 injured property owner; or
- 186 (9) Summarily take any action specified in this subsection against a 187 practitioner's license or permit upon receipt of proof that such 188 practitioner has been:

189

190

191

192

193

194195

(A) Found guilty or convicted as a result of an act which constitutes a felony under (i) the laws of this state, (ii) federal law, or (iii) the laws of another jurisdiction and which, if committed within this state, would have constituted a felony under the laws of this state, except for a practitioner who is a social worker under chapter 383b, an art therapist under chapter 383g, a dietitian-nutritionist under chapter 384b, an embalmer or funeral director under chapter 385, a barber under chapter

386, a hairdresser, cosmetician, esthetician, eyelash technician or nail
 technician under chapter 387; or

- (B) Subject to disciplinary action similar to that specified in this subsection by a duly authorized professional agency of any state, the federal government, the District of Columbia, a United States possession or territory or a foreign jurisdiction. The applicable board or commission, or the department shall promptly notify the practitioner or permittee that his license or permit has been summarily acted upon pursuant to this subsection and shall institute formal proceedings for revocation within ninety days after such notification.
- Sec. 3. Section 20-1950 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):
 - (a) Application for licensure shall be on forms prescribed and furnished by the commissioner. Each applicant shall furnish evidence satisfactory to the commissioner that he or she has met the requirements of section 20-195n. The application fee for a clinical social worker license shall be three hundred fifteen dollars. The application fee for a master social worker license shall be two hundred twenty dollars.
 - (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 20-195n concerning examinations, on or before October 1, 2015, the commissioner may issue a license without examination, to any master social worker applicant who demonstrates to the satisfaction of the commissioner that, on or before October 1, 2013, he or she held a master's degree from a social work program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education or, if educated outside the United States or its territories, completed an educational program deemed equivalent by the council.
 - (c) Each person licensed pursuant to this chapter may apply for renewal of such licensure in accordance with the provisions of subsection (e) of section 19a-88. A fee of one hundred ninety-five dollars shall accompany each renewal application for a licensed master social worker or a licensed clinical social worker. Each such applicant shall furnish evidence satisfactory to the commissioner of having satisfied the

continuing education requirements prescribed in section 20-195u.

- (d) (1) An individual who has been convicted of any criminal offense
- 230 may request, in writing, at any time, that the commissioner determine
- 231 whether such individual's criminal conviction disqualifies the
- 232 <u>individual from obtaining a license issued or conferred by the</u>
- 233 commissioner pursuant to this chapter based on (A) the nature of the
- 234 conviction and its relationship to the individual's ability to safely or
- competently perform the duties or responsibilities associated with such
- 236 license, (B) information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the
- 237 individual, and (C) the time elapsed since the conviction or release of
- the individual.
- 239 (2) An individual making such request shall include (A) details of the
- 240 <u>individual's criminal conviction</u>, and (B) any payment required by the
- 241 commissioner. The commissioner may charge a fee of not more than
- 242 fifteen dollars for each request made under this subsection. The
- 243 <u>commissioner may waive such fee.</u>
- 244 (3) Not later than thirty days after receiving a request under this
- 245 <u>subsection, the commissioner shall inform the individual making such</u>
- 246 request whether, based on the criminal record information provided,
- 247 <u>such individual is disqualified from receiving or holding a license</u>
- 248 <u>issued or conferred pursuant to this chapter.</u>
- 249 (4) The commissioner is not bound by a determination made under
- 250 this subsection, if, upon further investigation, the commissioner
- 251 <u>determines that an individual's criminal conviction differs from the</u>
- 252 <u>information presented in the determination request.</u>
- Sec. 4. Section 20-195p of the general statutes is repealed and the
- following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):
- 255 The commissioner may deny an application of an individual or take
- any action set forth in section 19a-17, as amended by this act, if the
- 257 license holder fails to conform to the accepted standards of the social
- work profession, including, but not limited to, the following: Conviction

259

260

261

262

263

264

265

266

267

268

269

270

271

272

273

274

275

276

277

278

279

280

281

282

283

284

285

286

287

288

289

290

291

292

of a felony, provided any action taken is based upon (1) the nature of the conviction and its relationship to the license holder's ability to safely or competently perform the duties or responsibilities associated with such license, (2) information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the license holder, and (3) the time elapsed since the conviction or <u>release</u>; fraud or deceit in obtaining or seeking reinstatement of a license to practice clinical social work; fraud or deceit in the practice of social work; negligent, incompetent or wrongful conduct in professional activities; emotional disorder or mental illness; physical illness, including, but not limited to, deterioration through the aging process; abuse or excessive use of drugs, including alcohol, narcotics or chemicals; wilful falsification of entries in any hospital, patient or other record pertaining to social work; violation of any provision of this chapter or any regulation adopted hereunder. The Commissioner of Public Health may order a license holder to submit to a reasonable physical or mental examination if his physical or mental capacity to practice safely is the subject of an investigation. Said commissioner may petition the superior court for the judicial district of Hartford to enforce such order or any action taken pursuant to said section 19a-17, as amended by this act. Notice of any contemplated action under said section 19a-17, as amended by this act, of the cause therefor and the date of hearing thereon, shall be given and an opportunity for hearing afforded as provided in the regulations adopted by the commissioner.

Sec. 5. Section 20-195cc of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

(a) The Commissioner of Public Health shall grant a license (1) as a professional counselor to any applicant who furnishes evidence satisfactory to the commissioner that such applicant has met the requirements of section 20-195dd, and (2) as a professional counselor associate to any applicant who furnishes evidence satisfactory to the commissioner that such applicant has met the requirements of section 20-195dd. The commissioner shall develop and provide application forms. The application fee for a professional counselor shall be three hundred fifteen dollars. The application fee for a professional counselor

associate shall be two hundred twenty dollars.

294

295

296

297

298

299

300

301

302

303

304

305

306

307

308

309

310

311

312

313

314

315

316

317

318 319

320

321

322

323

324 325

(b) Licenses issued to professional counselors and professional counselor associates under this section may be renewed annually pursuant to section 19a-88. The fee for such renewal shall be one hundred ninety-five dollars. Each licensed professional counselor and professional counselor associate applying for license renewal shall furnish evidence satisfactory to the commissioner of having participated in continuing education programs. The commissioner shall adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, to (1) define basic requirements for continuing education programs that shall include (A) not less than one contact hour of training or education each registration period on the topic of cultural competency, (B) on and after January 1, 2016, not less than two contact hours of training or education during the first renewal period in which continuing education is required and not less than once every six years thereafter on the topic of mental health conditions common to veterans and family members of veterans, including (i) determining whether a patient is a veteran or family member of a veteran, (ii) screening for conditions such as post-traumatic stress disorder, risk of suicide, depression and grief, and (iii) suicide prevention training, and (C) on and after January 1, 2018, not less than three contact hours of training or education each registration period on the topic of professional ethics, (2) delineate qualifying programs, (3) establish a system of control and reporting, and (4) provide for a waiver of the continuing education requirement for good cause.

(c) (1) Any individual who has been convicted of any criminal offense may request, at any time, that the commissioner determine whether such individual's criminal conviction disqualifies the individual from obtaining a license issued or conferred by the commissioner pursuant to this chapter based on (A) the nature of the conviction and its relationship to the individual's ability to safely or competently perform the duties or responsibilities associated with such license, (B) information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the individual, and (C) the time elapsed since the conviction or release of the individual.

326

327

328 329

330

331

332

333

334

335

342

343

344

345

346

347

348

349350

351

352 353

354

355

356

357

(2) An individual making such request shall include (A) details of the individual's criminal conviction, and (B) any payment required by the commissioner. The commissioner may charge a fee of not more than fifteen dollars for each request made under this subsection. The commissioner may waive such fee.

- (3) Not later than thirty days after receiving a request under this subsection, the commissioner shall inform the individual making such request whether, based on the criminal record information submitted, such individual is disqualified from receiving or holding a license issued or conferred pursuant to this chapter.
- (4) The commissioner is not bound by a determination made under
 this section, if, upon further investigation, the commissioner determines
 that the individual's criminal conviction differs from the information
 presented in the determination request.
- Sec. 6. Section 20-195ee of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

The Commissioner of Public Health may deny an application of an individual or take any disciplinary action set forth in section 19a-17, as amended by this act, against a professional counselor or professional counselor associate for any of the following reasons: (1) Failure to conform to the accepted standards of the profession; (2) conviction of a felony, provided any action taken is based upon (A) the nature of the conviction and its relationship to the license holder's ability to safely or competently practice professional counseling, (B) information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the license holder, and (C) the time elapsed since the conviction or release; (3) fraud or deceit in obtaining or seeking reinstatement of a license to practice professional counseling; (4) fraud or deceit in the practice of professional counseling; (5) negligent, incompetent or wrongful conduct in professional activities; (6) physical, mental or emotional illness or disorder resulting in an inability to conform to the accepted standards of the profession; (7) alcohol or substance abuse; (8) wilful falsification of entries in any

hospital, patient or other record pertaining to professional counseling; or (9) violation of any provision of sections 20-195aa to 20-195dd, inclusive, or any regulation adopted pursuant to section 20-195ff. The commissioner may order a license holder to submit to a reasonable physical or mental examination if his physical or mental capacity to practice safely is the subject of an investigation. The commissioner may petition the superior court for the judicial district of Hartford to enforce such order or any action taken pursuant to said section 19a-17, as amended by this act. The commissioner shall give notice and an opportunity to be heard on any contemplated action under said section 19a-17, as amended by this act.

Sec. 7. Section 20-195000 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

- (a) On and after October 1, 2019, the Commissioner of Public Health shall grant a license as an art therapist to any applicant who, except as provided in subsections (b) and (c) of this section, furnishes evidence satisfactory to the commissioner that such applicant (1) has earned a graduate degree in art therapy or a related field from an accredited institution of higher education, and (2) holds a current credential or certification as an art therapist from the Art Therapy Credentials Board, or any successor of said board. The commissioner shall develop and provide application forms. The application fee shall be three hundred fifteen dollars.
- (b) An applicant for licensure by endorsement shall present evidence satisfactory to the commissioner that the applicant is licensed or certified as an art therapist, or as a person entitled to perform similar services under a different designation, in another state or jurisdiction that has requirements for practicing in such capacity that are substantially similar to, or higher than, those of this state and that there are no disciplinary actions or unresolved complaints pending in this state or any other state.
 - (c) Licenses issued under this section shall be renewed annually

pursuant to section 19a-88. The fee for such renewal shall be one hundred ninety dollars. Each licensed art therapist applying for license renewal shall furnish evidence satisfactory to the commissioner of having a current credential or certification with the Art Therapy Credentials Board, or any successor of said board, and having obtained continuing education units for such credential or certification as required by said board.

397

398

399

400 401

402403

404

405 406

407

408

409

410

411

412

413

414

415

- (d) (1) Any individual who has been convicted of any criminal offense may request, at any time, that the commissioner determine whether such individual's criminal conviction disqualifies the individual from obtaining a license issued or conferred by the commissioner pursuant to this chapter based on (A) the nature of the conviction and its relationship to the individual's ability to safely or competently perform the duties or responsibilities associated with such license, (B) information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the individual, and (C) the time elapsed since the conviction or release of the individual. An individual making such request shall include (i) details of the individual's criminal conviction, and (ii) any payment required by the commissioner. The commissioner may charge a fee of not more than fifteen dollars for each request made under this subsection. The commissioner may waive such fee.
- (2) Not later than thirty days after receiving a request under this subsection, the commissioner shall inform the individual making such request whether, based on the criminal record information submitted, such individual is disqualified from receiving or holding a license issued pursuant to this chapter.
- 416 (3) The commissioner is not bound by a determination made under 417 this subsection, if, upon further investigation, the commissioner 418 determines that the individual's criminal conviction differs from the 419 information presented in the determination request.
- Sec. 8. Section 20-195qqq of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

422

423

424

425

426

427

428

429

430

431

432

433

434

435

436

437

438

439

440

441

442

443

444

445

446

447

448

449

450

451

452

453

454

455

The Commissioner of Public Health may deny an application of an individual or take any disciplinary action set forth in section 19a-17, as amended by this act, against an art therapist for any of the following reasons: (1) Failure to conform to the accepted standards of the profession; (2) conviction of a felony, provided any action taken is based upon (A) the nature of the conviction and its relationship to the license holder's ability to safely or competently practice as an art therapist, (B) information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the license holder, and (C) the time elapsed since the conviction or release; (3) fraud or deceit in obtaining or seeking reinstatement of a license to practice art therapy; (4) fraud or deceit in the practice of art therapy; (5) negligent, incompetent or wrongful conduct in professional activities; (6) physical, mental or emotional illness or disorder resulting in an inability to conform to the accepted standards of the profession; (7) alcohol or substance abuse; or (8) wilful falsification of entries in any hospital, patient or other record pertaining to art therapy. The commissioner may order a license holder to submit to a reasonable physical or mental examination if his or her physical or mental capacity to practice safely is the subject of an investigation. The commissioner may petition the superior court for the judicial district of Hartford to enforce such order or any action taken pursuant to section 19a-17, as amended by this act. The commissioner shall give notice and an opportunity to be heard on any contemplated action under section 19a-17, as amended by this act.

Sec. 9. Section 20-206n of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

(a) The department may, upon receipt of an application and fee of one hundred ninety dollars, issue a certificate as a dietitian-nutritionist to any applicant who has presented to the commissioner satisfactory evidence that (1) such applicant is certified as a registered dietitian by the Commission on Dietetic Registration, or (2) such applicant has (A) successfully passed a written examination prescribed by the commissioner, and (B) received a master's degree or doctoral degree, from an institution of higher education accredited to grant such degree by a regional accrediting agency recognized by the United States

456 Department of Education, with a major course of study which focused 457 primarily on human nutrition or dietetics and which included a 458 minimum of thirty graduate semester credits, twenty-one of which shall 459 be in not fewer than five of the following content areas: (i) Human 460 nutrition or nutrition in the life cycle, (ii) nutrition biochemistry, (iii) 461 nutrition assessment, (iv) food composition or food science, (v) health 462 education or nutrition counseling, (vi) nutrition in health and disease, 463 and (vii) community nutrition or public health nutrition.

464

465

466

471

475

476

477

478

479

480

481

482

483

484

485

486

487

- (b) No certificate shall be issued under this section to any applicant against whom a professional disciplinary action is pending or who is the subject of an unresolved professional complaint.
- 467 (c) (1) Any individual who has been convicted of any criminal offense may request, at any time, that the commissioner determine whether 468 469 such individual's criminal conviction disqualifies the individual from 470 obtaining a certificate issued or conferred by the commissioner pursuant this section based on (A) the nature of the conviction and its relationship 472 to the individual's ability to safely or competently perform the duties or 473 responsibilities associated with such license, (B) information pertaining 474 to the degree of rehabilitation of the individual, and (C) the time elapsed since the conviction or release of the individual.
 - (2) An individual making such request shall include (A) details of the individual's criminal conviction, and (B) any payment required by the department. The commissioner may charge a fee of not more than fifteen dollars for each request made under this subsection. The commissioner may waive such fee.
 - (3) Not later than thirty days after receiving a request under this subsection, the commissioner shall inform the individual making such request whether, based on the criminal record information submitted, such individual is disqualified from receiving or holding a certificate issued pursuant to this section.
 - (4) The department is not bound by a determination made under this section, if, upon further investigation, the commissioner determines that

488 <u>the individual's criminal conviction differs from the information</u> 489 presented in the determination request.

Sec. 10. Section 20-206s of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

492

493

494

495

496 497

498

499

500

501

502

503

504

505

506 507

508

509

510

511

512

513

514

515

516517

518519

The department may deny an application of an individual or take any action set forth in section 19a-17, as amended by this act, if the certificate holder fails to conform to the accepted standards of the dietitiannutritionist profession, including, but not limited to, the following: Conviction of a felony, provided any action taken is based upon (1) the nature of the conviction and its relationship to the certificate holder's ability to safely or competently perform the duties or responsibilities associated with such certificate, (2) information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the certificate holder, and (3) the time elapsed since the conviction or release; fraud or deceit in professional practice; illegal conduct; negligent, incompetent or wrongful conduct in professional activities; emotional disorder or mental illness; physical illness including, but not limited to, deterioration through the aging process; abuse or excessive use of drugs, including alcohol, narcotics or chemicals; wilful falsification of entries in any client or patient record; misrepresentation or concealment of a material fact in the obtaining or reinstatement of a dietitian-nutritionist certificate; or violation of any provision of sections 20-206m to 20-206t, inclusive.

Sec. 11. Subsection (i) of section 20-265b of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

(i) The Commissioner of Public Health may <u>deny an application of an individual or</u> take any disciplinary action set forth in section 19a-17, <u>as amended by this act</u>, against an esthetician for failure to conform to the accepted standards of the profession, including, but not limited to: (1) Conviction of a felony, <u>provided any action taken is based upon (A) the nature of the conviction and its relationship to the license holder's ability to safely or competently practice as an esthetician, (B) information</u>

pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the license holder, and (C) the time elapsed since the conviction or release; (2) fraud or deceit in obtaining or seeking reinstatement of a license to practice as an esthetician; (3) fraud or deceit in the practice of an esthetician; (4) negligent, incompetent or wrongful conduct in professional activities; (5) physical, mental or emotional illness or disorder resulting in an inability to conform to the accepted standards of the profession; or (6) abuse or excessive use of drugs, including, alcohol, narcotics or chemicals. The commissioner may order a license holder to submit to a reasonable physical or mental examination if his or her physical or mental capacity to practice safely is the subject of an investigation. The commissioner may petition the superior court for the judicial district of Hartford to enforce such order or any action taken pursuant to section 19a-17, as amended by this act. The commissioner shall give notice and an opportunity to be heard on any contemplated action under section 19a-17, as amended by this act.

Sec. 12. Section 20-265b of the general statutes is amended by adding subsection (k) as follows (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

(NEW) (k) (1) Any individual who has been convicted of any criminal offense may request, at any time, that the commissioner determine whether such individual's criminal conviction disqualifies the individual from obtaining a certificate issued or conferred by the commissioner pursuant to this section based on (A) the nature of the conviction and its relationship to the individual's ability to safely or competently perform the duties or responsibilities associated with such license, (B) information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the individual, and (C) the time elapsed since the conviction or release of the individual.

(2) An individual making such request shall include (A) details of the individual's criminal conviction, and (B) any payment required by the commissioner. The commissioner may charge a fee of not more than fifteen dollars for each request made under this subsection. The commissioner may waive such fee.

553

554

555

556

557

558

559

560 561

565

566

567

568

569

570

571

572

573

574

575

576

577

578

579

580

581

582

583

584

585

(3) Not later than thirty days after receiving a request under this subsection, the commissioner shall inform the individual making such request whether, based on the criminal record information submitted, such individual is disqualified from receiving or holding a certificate issued pursuant to this section.

- (4) The commissioner is not bound by a determination made under this section, if, upon further investigation, the commissioner determines that the individual's criminal conviction differs from the information presented in the determination request.
- Sec. 13. Subsection (i) of section 20-265c of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1*, 2022):
 - (i) The Commissioner of Public Health may deny an application of an individual or take any disciplinary action set forth in section 19a-17, as amended by this act, against an eyelash technician for failure to conform to the accepted standards of the profession, including, but not limited to: (1) Conviction of a felony, provided any action taken is based upon (A) the nature of the conviction and its relationship to the license holder's ability to safely or competently practice as an eyelash technician, (B) information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the license holder, and (C) the time elapsed since the conviction or release; (2) fraud or deceit in obtaining or seeking reinstatement of a license to practice as an eyelash technician; (3) fraud or deceit in the practice of an eyelash technician; (4) negligent, incompetent or wrongful conduct in professional activities; (5) physical, mental or emotional illness or disorder resulting in an inability to conform to the accepted standards of the profession; or (6) abuse or excessive use of drugs, including, alcohol, narcotics or chemicals. The commissioner may order a license holder to submit to a reasonable physical or mental examination if his or her physical or mental capacity to practice safely is the subject of an investigation. The commissioner may petition the superior court for the judicial district of Hartford to enforce such order or any action taken pursuant to section 19a-17, as amended by this act.

The commissioner shall give notice and an opportunity to be heard on any contemplated action under section 19a-17, as amended by this act.

- Sec. 14. Section 20-265c of the general statutes is amended by adding subsection (k) as follows (*Effective October 1, 2022*):
- 590 (NEW) (k) (1) Any individual who has been convicted of any criminal 591 offense may request, at any time, that the commissioner determine 592 whether such individual's criminal conviction disqualifies the 593 individual from obtaining a certificate issued or conferred by the 594 commissioner pursuant to this section based on (A) the nature of the 595 conviction and its relationship to the individual's ability to safely or 596 competently perform the duties or responsibilities associated with such 597 license, (B) information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the 598 individual, and (C) the time elapsed since the conviction or release of 599 the individual.

600

601

602

603

604

605

606

607

608

609

- (2) An individual making such request shall include (A) details of the individual's criminal conviction, and (B) any payment required by the commissioner. The commissioner may charge a fee of not more than fifteen dollars for each request made under this subsection. The commissioner may waive such fee.
- (3) Not later than thirty days after receiving a request under this subsection, the commissioner shall inform the individual making such request whether, based on the criminal record information submitted, such individual is disqualified from receiving or holding a certificate issued pursuant to this section.
- (4) The commissioner is not bound by a determination made under this section, if, upon further investigation, the commissioner determines that the individual's criminal conviction differs from the information presented in the determination request.
- Sec. 15. Subsection (i) of section 20-265d of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1*, 2022):

sHB5248 / File No. 627 20

(i) The Commissioner of Public Health may deny an application of an 617 618 individual or take any disciplinary action set forth in section 19a-17, as 619 amended by this act, against a nail technician for failure to conform to 620 the accepted standards of the profession, including, but not limited to: 621 (1) Conviction of a felony, provided any action taken is based upon (A) 622 the nature of the conviction and its relationship to the license holder's 623 ability to safely or competently practice as an nail technician, (B) 624 information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the license 625 holder, and (C) the time elapsed since the conviction or release; (2) fraud 626 or deceit in obtaining or seeking reinstatement of a license to practice as 627 a nail technician; (3) fraud or deceit in the practice of a nail technician; 628 (4) negligent, incompetent or wrongful conduct in professional 629 activities; (5) physical, mental or emotional illness or disorder resulting 630 in an inability to conform to the accepted standards of the profession; or 631 (6) abuse or excessive use of drugs, including, alcohol, narcotics or chemicals. The commissioner may order a license holder to submit to a 632 633 reasonable physical or mental examination if his or her physical or 634 mental capacity to practice safely is the subject of an investigation. The 635 commissioner may petition the superior court for the judicial district of 636 Hartford to enforce such order or any action taken pursuant to section 637 19a-17, as amended by this act. The commissioner shall give notice and 638 an opportunity to be heard on any contemplated action under section 639 19a-17, as amended by this act.

Sec. 16. Section 20-265d of the general statutes is amended by adding subsection (k) as follows (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

642

643

644

645

646

647

648

649

650

(NEW) (k) (1) Any individual who has been convicted of any criminal offense may request, at any time, that the commissioner determine whether such individual's criminal conviction disqualifies the individual from obtaining a license issued or conferred by the commissioner pursuant to this section based on (A) the nature of the conviction and its relationship to the individual's ability to safely or competently perform the duties or responsibilities associated with such license, (B) information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the individual, and (C) the time elapsed since the conviction or release of

651 the individual.

657

658

659

660

661

662

663

664

665

- (2) An individual making such request shall include (A) details of the individual's criminal conviction, and (B) any payment required by the commissioner. The commissioner may charge a fee of not more than fifteen dollars for each request made under this subsection. The commissioner may waive such fee.
 - (3) Not later than thirty days after receiving a request under this subsection, the commissioner shall inform the individual making such request whether, based on the criminal record information submitted, such individual is disqualified from receiving or holding a license issued pursuant to this section.
 - (4) The commissioner is not bound by a determination made under this section, if, upon further investigation, the department determines that the individual's criminal conviction differs from the information presented in the determination request.
- Sec. 17. Section 20-280e of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):
- 668 (a) The State Board of Accountancy shall issue a Connecticut Certified 669 Public Accountant's Certificate to any person who has been granted the 670 designation "certified public accountant" and who submits an 671 application and pays the applicable fee for an initial certified public 672 accountant certificate. No person issued an initial certificate, pursuant 673 to this section, shall engage in the practice of public accountancy or use 674 the title or designation "certified public accountant", or the 675 abbreviations "CPA", or any other title, designation, words, letters, 676 abbreviation, sign, card or device tending to indicate that such person is 677 a certified public accountant, except as permitted in accordance with 678 sections 20-280 and 20-281g.
- 679 (b) (1) Any individual who has been convicted of any criminal offense 680 may request, at any time, that the board determine whether such 681 individual's criminal conviction disqualifies the individual from

sHB5248 / File No. 627 22

obtaining a certificate or license issued or conferred by the board pursuant to this chapter based on (A) the nature of the conviction and its relationship to the individual's ability to safely or competently perform the duties or responsibilities associated with such license, (B) information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the individual, and (C) the time elapsed since the conviction or release of the individual.

(2) An individual making such request shall include (A) details of the individual's criminal conviction, and (B) any payment required by the board. The board may charge a fee of not more than fifteen dollars for each request made under this subsection. The board may waive such fee.

688

689 690

691

692

704

705

706

707

708

709

710

711

712

713

- (3) Not later than thirty days after receiving a request under this subsection, the board shall inform the individual making such request whether, based on the criminal record information submitted, such individual is disqualified from receiving or holding a license issued pursuant to this chapter.
- 698 (4) The board is not bound by a determination made under this 699 section, if, upon further investigation, the board determines that the 700 individual's criminal conviction differs from the information presented 701 in the determination request.
- Sec. 18. Section 20-281a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):
 - (a) After notice and hearing pursuant to section 20-280c, the board may revoke any certificate, license or permit issued under section 20-281c, 20-281d or 20-281e or the practice privilege of an individual who qualifies under section 20-281n; suspend any such certificate, registration, license, practice privilege or permit or refuse to renew any such certificate, license or permit; reprimand, censure, or limit the scope of practice of any licensee or individual that qualifies for the practice privilege; impose a civil penalty not exceeding fifty thousand dollars upon licensees, individuals who qualify for the practice privilege or others violating provisions of section 20-281g; [or] place any licensee or

individual that qualifies for the practice privilege on probation, all with or without terms, conditions and limitations; or deny an application of an individual, for any one or more of the following reasons:

- 717 (1) Fraud or deceit in obtaining a certificate, registration, license, 718 practice privilege or permit;
- 719 (2) Cancellation, revocation, suspension or refusal to renew authority 720 to engage in the practice of public accountancy in any other state for any 721 cause;
- (3) Failure, on the part of a holder of a license or permit under section 20-281d or 20-281e, to maintain compliance with the requirements for issuance or renewal of such license or permit or to report changes to the board under subsection (h) of section 20-281d or subsection (f) of section 20-281e;
- 727 (4) Revocation, limitation or suspension of the right to practice before 728 any state or federal agency or the Public Company Accounting 729 Oversight Board under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, or any of the 730 following actions taken by any such state or federal agency or said board 731 against a licensee or individual who qualifies for the practice privilege: 732 (A) Suspension of or barring a licensee from serving as a corporate 733 officer or director, (B) requiring such individual or licensee to disgorge 734 funds, or (C) suspension or barring such individual or a licensee from
- 736 (5) Dishonesty, fraud or negligence in the practice of public 737 accountancy or in the filing or failure to file his own income tax returns;

association with a public accounting firm;

735

- 738 (6) Violation of any provision of sections 20-279b to 20-281m, 739 inclusive, or regulation adopted by the board under said sections;
- 740 (7) Violation of any rule of professional conduct adopted by the board 741 under subdivision (4) of subsection (g) of section 20-280;
- 742 (8) (A) Conviction of a felony, provided any action taken is based

 743 upon (i) the nature of the conviction and its relationship to the certificate

or license holder's ability to safely or competently engage in the practice of public accountancy, (ii) information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the certificate or license holder, and (iii) the time elapsed since the conviction or release, or (B) of any crime an element of which is dishonesty or fraud, under the laws of the United States, of this state, or of any other state if the acts involved would have constituted a crime under the laws of this state, subject to the provisions of section

- 752 (9) Performance of any fraudulent act while holding a registration, 753 certificate, license, practice privilege or permit issued under sections 20-754 279b to 20-281m, inclusive, or prior law;
- 755 (10) Any conduct reflecting adversely upon the licensee's fitness to 756 engage in the practice of public accountancy; and
- 757 (11) Violation by anyone of any provision of section 20-281g.

751

769

770

771

772

773

46a-80;

- (b) In lieu of or in addition to any remedy specifically provided in subsection (a) of this section, the board may require a licensee or individual who qualifies for a practice privilege to: (1) Submit to a quality review conducted in such fashion as the board may specify; or (2) complete such continuing professional education programs as the board may specify, or both.
- (c) In any proceeding in which a remedy provided by subsection (a) or (b) of this section is imposed, the board may also require the respondent to pay the costs of the proceeding.
- Sec. 19. Section 20-291 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):
 - (a) No person shall receive a license under the provisions of this chapter until such person has passed an examination in such technical and professional subjects as may be prescribed by the board, with the consent of the Commissioner of Consumer Protection. Each person who applies to the Department of Consumer Protection for a license under

sHB5248 / File No. 627 25

774

775

776

777

778

779

780

781

782

783

784

785

786 787

788

789

790

791

792

793

794

795

796

797 798

799

800

801

802

803

804

805

806

the provisions of this chapter shall submit an application, together with evidence of education and training experience as prescribed by the commissioner, in consultation with the board, in regulations adopted in accordance with chapter 54. The board or the commissioner may accept in the case of any architect currently registered or licensed in another state in lieu of the examination (1) a certificate of registration issued by the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards; or (2) evidence satisfactory to the board or the commissioner that such architect is registered in a state having registration requirements substantially equal to the licensure requirements of this state and that such architect has been practicing in such other state for a period of at least ten years. When the applicant has passed such examination to the satisfaction of a majority of the board or the commissioner and has paid to the department the fees prescribed in section 20-292, the department shall enroll the applicant's name and address in the roster of licensed architects and issue a license to the applicant, which shall entitle the applicant to practice as an architect in this state.

(b) (1) Any individual who has been convicted of any criminal offense may request, at any time, that the commissioner determine whether such individual's criminal conviction disqualifies the individual from obtaining a certificate or license issued or conferred by the commissioner pursuant to this chapter based on (A) the nature of the conviction and its relationship to the individual's ability to safely or competently perform the duties or responsibilities associated with such license, (B) information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the individual, and (C) the time elapsed since the conviction or release of the individual.

(2) An individual making such request shall include (A) details of the individual's criminal conviction, and (B) any payment required by the commissioner. The commissioner may charge a fee of not more than fifteen dollars for each request made under this subsection. The commissioner may waive such fee.

(3) Not later than thirty days after receiving a request under this

sHB5248 / File No. 627 26

807 subsection, the commissioner shall inform the individual making such 808 request whether, based on the criminal record information submitted, 809 such individual is disqualified from receiving or holding a certificate or 810 license issued pursuant to this chapter.

(4) The commissioner is not bound by a determination made under 812 this section, if, upon further investigation, the commissioner determines that the individual's criminal conviction differs from the information presented in the determination request.

811

813

814

817

818

819

820

821

822

823

824

825

826

827

828

829

830

831

832

833

834

835

836

837

838

839

815 Sec. 20. Section 20-294 of the general statutes is repealed and the 816 following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective October 1, 2022):

The Commissioner of Consumer Protection or the board may suspend for a definite period, not to exceed one year, or revoke any license or certificate of authority issued under this chapter, after notice and hearing in accordance with the regulations adopted by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, or may officially censure any person holding any such license or certificate of authority and may assess a civil penalty of up to one thousand dollars per violation, (1) if it is shown that the license or certificate was obtained through fraud or misrepresentation, (2) if the holder of the license or certificate has been found guilty by the board, the commissioner or by a court of competent jurisdiction of any fraud or deceit in such holder's professional practice or has been convicted of a felony, provided any action taken is based upon (A) the nature of the conviction and its relationship to the certificate or license holder's ability to safely or competently perform the duties or responsibilities with such license or certificate, (B) information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the certificate or license holder, and (C) the time elapsed since the conviction or release, (3) if the holder of the license or certificate has been found guilty by the board or the commissioner of gross incompetency or of negligence in the planning or construction of buildings, or (4) if it is shown to the satisfaction of the board or the commissioner that the holder of the license or certificate has violated any provision of this chapter or any regulation adopted under this chapter. Any such suspension or

revocation of a license or certificate by the board shall be a proposed final decision and submitted to the commissioner in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of section 21a-7. The board or the commissioner may reissue any such license or certificate which has been revoked, and may modify the suspension of any such license or certificate which has been suspended.

Sec. 21. Section 20-334 of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1*, 2022):

- (a) No person shall engage in, practice or offer to perform the work of any occupation subject to this chapter in this state, including offering to perform such work in any print, electronic, television or radio advertising or listing, unless such person has first obtained a license as provided in section 20-333, or possesses a card of registration from the Labor Department or the board and is subject to all of the regulations adopted under this chapter for the purpose of governing apprenticeship training, or has been issued a license for such particular work under this chapter prior to July 6, 1967.
- (b) The Department of Consumer Protection shall furnish to each qualified applicant a license certifying that the holder thereof is entitled to engage in the work or occupation for which the person has been issued a license under this chapter, and the holder of such license shall carry it on his person while engaging in such work or occupation. Such license shall be shown to any properly interested person on request. No such license shall be transferred to or used by any person other than the person to whom the license was issued. Contractors that fail to display their state license number on all commercial vehicles used in their business and in a conspicuous manner on all advertisements, bid proposals, contracts, invoices and on all stationery used in their business may be fined not more than five hundred dollars per violation, but shall not be fined for the first violation. The department shall keep a register in which shall be entered the names of all persons to whom such licenses are issued. The register shall be at all times open to public inspection.

873

874

875

876

877

878

879

880

881 882

883

884

885

886 887

888

889

890

891

892

893

894895

896

897

898

899

900

901 902

903

904

905

(c) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection and each board established under section 20-331 may deny, suspend or revoke any license or certificate granted or issued by it under this chapter if the holder of such license or certificate (1) is convicted of a felony, provided any action taken is based upon (A) the nature of the conviction and its relationship to the license or certificate holder's ability to safely or competently perform the duties or responsibilities associated with such license or certificate, (B) information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the license or certificate holder, and (C) the time elapsed since the conviction or release, (2) is grossly incompetent, (3) engages in malpractice or unethical conduct or knowingly makes false, misleading or deceptive representations regarding his or her work, or (4) violates the regulations adopted under this chapter. Before any such license or certificate is suspended or revoked, such holder shall be given notice and opportunity for hearing as provided in regulations adopted by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection. Any person whose license or certificate has been suspended or revoked may, after ninety days but not more than one hundred eighty days after such suspension or revocation, apply to the board demonstrating good cause to have such license reinstated. Any such suspension or revocation of a license or [certification] certificate by the board shall be a proposed final decision and submitted to the commissioner in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of section 21a-7.

(d) (1) Any individual who has been convicted of any criminal offense may request, at any time, that the commissioner determine whether such individual's criminal conviction disqualifies the individual from obtaining a license or certificate issued or conferred by the commissioner pursuant to this chapter based on (A) the nature of the conviction and its relationship to the individual's ability to safely or competently perform the duties or responsibilities associated with such license, (B) information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the individual, and (C) the time elapsed since the conviction or release of the individual.

906 (2) An individual making such request shall include (A) details of the

sHB5248 / File No. 627 29

907 <u>individual's criminal conviction, and (B) any payment required by the</u>
 908 <u>commissioner. The commissioner may charge a fee of not more than</u>
 909 <u>fifteen dollars for each request made under this subsection. The</u>
 910 <u>commissioner may waive such fee.</u>

- 911 (3) Not later than thirty days after receiving a request under this 912 subsection, the commissioner shall inform the individual making such 913 request whether, based on the criminal record information submitted, 914 such individual is disqualified from receiving or holding a license or 915 certificate issued pursuant to this chapter.
- 916 (4) The commissioner is not bound by a determination made under 917 this section, if, upon further investigation, the commissioner determines 918 that the individual's criminal conviction differs from the information 919 presented in the determination request.
- 920 Sec. 22. Section 20-341gg of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

922

923

924

925

926

927

928

929

930

931

932

933

934

935

936

937

938

- (a) As used in this section, "major contractor" means (1) any person engaged in the business of construction, structural repair, structural alteration, dismantling or demolition of a structure or addition that exceeds the threshold limits provided in section 29-276b, or (2) any person who, under the direction of a general contractor, performs or offers to perform any work that impacts upon the structural integrity of a structure or addition, including repair, alteration, dismantling or demolition of a structure or addition that exceeds the threshold limits provided in section 29-276b. Such work includes, but is not limited to, roofing, masonry and structural frame work.
- (b) No person shall engage in or offer to perform the work of any major contractor in this state on any proposed structure or existing structure or addition that exceeds the threshold limits contained in section 29-276b unless such person has first obtained a license or certificate of registration as required under the provisions of chapter 539 or a registration from the Department of Consumer Protection in accordance with the provisions of this section. Individuals licensed

939

940

941

942

943

944

945

946

947

948

949

950

951

952

953

954

955

956

957

958

959

960

961

962

963

964

965

966

967 968

969

970

971

972

973

under chapter 393 shall be exempt from the provisions of this chapter while engaging in work that they are licensed to perform. The department shall issue a certificate of registration to any person who is prequalified pursuant to section 4a-100 who applies for registration in accordance with this section. Such prequalified person shall not be required to pay a fee for such registration at any time that the person maintains valid prequalification. If the individual or the firm, company, partnership or corporation employing such individual is engaged in work on a structure or addition that exceeds the threshold limits contained in section 29-276b and requires licensure under chapter 393, the firm, company, partnership or corporation shall be exempt from the provisions of this chapter concerning registration of major contractors, if the firm, company, partnership or corporation employs an individual who is licensed as a contractor under chapter 393 to perform such work. The department shall furnish to each qualified applicant a registration certifying that the holder of such registration is entitled to engage in the work for which the person has been issued a registration under this subsection, and the holder of such registration shall carry it on his person while engaging in such work. Such registration shall be shown to any properly interested person upon request. No such registration shall be transferred to or used by any person other than the person to whom the registration was issued. The department shall maintain rosters of registrants and shall update such rosters annually. The department may provide copies of rosters to the public for an appropriate fee. The department may deny, suspend or revoke any registration issued by the department if the holder of such registration (1) is convicted of a felony, provided any action taken is based upon (A) the nature of the conviction and its relationship to the registration holder's ability to safely or competently perform the work under such registration, (B) information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the registration holder, and (C) the time elapsed since the conviction or release, (2) is grossly incompetent, (3) is disqualified, pursuant to section 4a-100 or whose prequalification certificate has been revoked pursuant to section 4a-100, (4) engages in malpractice or unethical conduct or knowingly makes false, misleading or deceptive representations

regarding his work, or (5) violates any regulation adopted under subsection (c) of this section. Before any registration is suspended or revoked, such holder shall be given notice and an opportunity for hearing as provided in regulations adopted under subsection (c) of this section. The Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall provide written notice of any suspension or revocation of a registration to the Commissioner of Administrative Services not later than ten days after such suspension or revocation.

(c) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, to implement the provisions of this section. Such regulations shall (1) establish the registration requirements for major contractors, (2) specify application and registration fees, and (3) establish occupational standards for the preservation of the public safety.

- (d) (1) Any individual who has been convicted of any criminal offense may request, at any time, that the commissioner determine whether such individual's criminal conviction disqualifies the individual from obtaining registration issued or conferred by the commissioner pursuant to this section based on (A) the nature of the conviction and its relationship to the individual's ability to safely or competently perform the duties or responsibilities associated with such license, (B) information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the individual, and (C) the time elapsed since the conviction or release of the individual.
- (2) An individual making such request shall include (A) details of the individual's criminal conviction, and (B) any payment required by the commissioner. The commissioner may charge a fee of not more than fifteen dollars for each request made under this subsection. The commissioner may waive such fee.
 - (3) Not later than thirty days after receiving a request under this subsection, the commissioner shall inform the individual making such request whether, based on the criminal record information submitted, such individual is disqualified from receiving or holding a registration

issued pursuant to this section.

1011

1012

1030

1031

1032

1033

1034

1035

1036

1037

1007 (4) The commissioner is not bound by a determination made under 1008 this section, if, upon further investigation, the commissioner determines 1009 that the individual's criminal conviction differs from the information 1010 presented in the determination request.

- Sec. 23. Section 20-361 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):
- 1013 (a) Except as provided in section 20-365, no person shall be licensed 1014 as a sanitarian who does not prove to the satisfaction of the 1015 commissioner that such person holds a degree from an accredited 1016 college or university following four years of study and has two years of 1017 full-time experience, or the equivalent, in the field of environmental health acceptable to the commissioner. An applicant who successfully 1018 1019 completes a special training course in environmental health approved 1020 by the commissioner may substitute such course for six months of such 1021 required experience in the field of environmental health. The applicant 1022 shall also be required to pass a written or oral examination in the science 1023 of environmental health as determined by the commissioner. An 1024 applicant for licensure shall not be required to be licensed while 1025 completing the work experience requirements of this section, provided, 1026 on and after January 1, 1998, such experience shall be completed under 1027 the supervision of a sanitarian licensed pursuant to this chapter or 1028 licensed, certified or registered in the jurisdiction in which such 1029 experience was completed.
 - (b) (1) Any individual who has been convicted of any criminal offense may request, at any time, that the commissioner determine whether such individual's criminal conviction disqualifies the individual from obtaining a license issued or conferred by the commissioner under this chapter based on (A) the nature of the conviction and its relationship to the individual's ability to safely or competently perform the duties or responsibilities associated with such license, (B) information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the individual, and (C) the time elapsed

since the conviction or release of the individual.

- 1039 (2) An individual making such request shall include (A) details of the
 1040 individual's criminal conviction, and (B) any payment required by the
 1041 commissioner. The commissioner may charge a fee of not more than
 1042 fifteen dollars for each request made under this subsection. The
 1043 commissioner may waive such fee.
- (3) Not later than thirty days after receiving a request under this subsection, the commissioner shall inform the individual making such request whether, based on the criminal record information submitted, such individual is disqualified from receiving or holding a license issued pursuant to this chapter.
- (4) The commissioner is not bound by a determination made under
 this section, if, upon further investigation, the commissioner determines
 that the individual's criminal conviction differs from the information
 presented in the determination request.
- Sec. 24. Section 20-363 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

The commissioner may refuse to issue or renew or may suspend or revoke a license or take any of the actions set forth in section 19a-17, as amended by this act, upon proof that the applicant or license holder (1) has employed or knowingly cooperated in fraud or material deception in order to obtain a license or has engaged in fraud or material deception in the course of professional services or activities at any place; (2) has been guilty of illegal, incompetent or negligent conduct in his or her practice; (3) has violated any provision of this chapter or any regulation adopted under this chapter; (4) has been found guilty or convicted as a result of an act which constitutes a felony under (A) the laws of this state, (B) federal law, or (C) the laws of another jurisdiction and which, if committed within this state, would have constituted a felony under the laws of this state, provided any action taken is based upon (i) the nature of the conviction and its relationship to the applicant's or license holder's ability to safely or competently perform the work under such

sHB5248 / File No. 627 34

1070 license, (ii) information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the 1071 license, and (iii) the time elapsed since the conviction or release; or (5) 1072 has been subject to disciplinary action similar to that specified in section 1073 19a-17, as amended by this act, by a duly authorized professional 1074 disciplinary agency of any state, the District of Columbia, a United 1075 States possession or territory, or a foreign jurisdiction. The 1076 commissioner may petition the superior court for the judicial district of 1077 Hartford to enforce any action taken pursuant to section 19a-17, as 1078 amended by this act. Before the commissioner may suspend, revoke or 1079 refuse to renew a license or take such other action, the commissioner 1080 shall give the applicant or license holder notice and opportunity for 1081 hearing as provided in the regulations adopted by the commissioner.

Sec. 25. Section 20-442a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

1082

1083

1084

1085

1086

1087

1088

1089

1090

1091

1092

1093

1094

1095

1096

1097

1098

1099

1100

1101

1102

1103

(a) The department may deny an application of an individual or take any action set forth in section 19a-17, as amended by this act, and subsection (f) of section 19a-88 against a person or entity licensed or certified pursuant to chapter 400a for reasons including, but not limited to, the following: (1) Conviction of a felony, provided any action taken is based upon (A) the nature of the conviction and its relationship to the license or certificate holder's ability to safely or competently perform the work under such license, (B) information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the license or certificate holder, and (C) the time elapsed since the conviction or release; (2) fraud or deceit in the practice of such person's or entity's profession; (3) negligent, incompetent or wrongful conduct in professional activities; (4) misrepresentation or concealment of a material fact in the obtaining, reinstatement or renewal of a license or certificate; or (5) violation of any provision of chapter 400a, or any regulation adopted thereunder. The commissioner may petition the superior court for the judicial district of Hartford to enforce such order or any action taken pursuant to section 19a-17, as amended by this act. Notice of any contemplated action under section 19a-17, as amended by this act, the cause of action and the date of a hearing on the action shall be given and an opportunity for hearing afforded in accordance with

the provisions of chapter 54.

1125

1126

11271128

- 1105 (b) (1) Any individual who has been convicted of any criminal offense 1106 may request, at any time, that the commissioner determine whether 1107 such individual's criminal conviction disqualifies the individual from 1108 obtaining a license or certificate issued or conferred by the 1109 commissioner pursuant to this chapter based on (A) the nature of the 1110 conviction and its relationship to the individual's ability to safely or 1111 competently perform the duties or responsibilities associated with such 1112 license, (B) information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the 1113 individual, and (C) the time elapsed since the conviction or release of 1114 the individual.
- 1115 (2) An individual making such request shall include (A) details of the 1116 individual's criminal conviction, and (B) any payment required by the 1117 commissioner. The commissioner may charge a fee of not more than 1118 fifteen dollars for each request made under this subsection. The 1119 commissioner may waive such fee.
- (3) Not later than thirty days after receiving a request under this subsection, the commissioner shall inform the individual making such request whether, based on the criminal record information submitted, such individual is disqualified from receiving or holding a license or certificate issued pursuant to this chapter.
 - (4) The commissioner is not bound by a determination made under this section, if, upon further investigation, the commissioner determines that the individual's criminal conviction differs from the information presented in the determination request.
- Sec. 26. Section 20-475 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):
- 1131 (a) On and after the effective date of regulations adopted pursuant to 1132 section 20-478, no entity shall hold itself out as a lead abatement 1133 contractor or lead consultant contractor, or to principally engage in such 1134 work in this state without a license issued by the Commissioner of

1135

1136

1137

1138

1139

1140

1141

1142

1143

1144

1145

1146

1147

1148

1149

1150

1151

1152

1153

11541155

1156

1157

1158

1159

1160

1161

1162

1163

1164

1165

1166

1167

Public Health. Applications for such license shall be made to the department on forms provided by it, and shall be accompanied by a fee of six hundred twenty-five dollars, and shall contain such information regarding the applicant's qualifications as the department may require in regulations adopted pursuant to said section 20-478 including, but not limited to, demonstrating that all employees of any applicant who require certification pursuant to subsections (e) and (f) of section 19a-88, and sections 20-474 to 20-482, inclusive, are certified by the department. The department shall review the technical, equipment and personnel resources of each applicant. No person shall be issued a license to act as a lead abatement contractor or lead consultant contractor unless such person obtains such approval. The commissioner may issue a license under this section to any person who is licensed in another state under a law which provides standards which are equal to or higher than those of Connecticut and is not subject to any unresolved complaints or pending disciplinary actions. Licenses issued pursuant to this section shall be renewed annually in accordance with the provisions of section 19a-88 upon payment of a fee of six hundred twenty-five dollars.

(b) (1) Any individual who has been convicted of any criminal offense may request, at any time, that the commissioner determine whether such individual's criminal conviction disqualifies the individual from obtaining a license or certificate issued or conferred by the commissioner pursuant to this chapter based on (A) the nature of the conviction and its relationship to the individual's ability to safely or competently perform the duties or responsibilities associated with such license, (B) information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the individual, and (C) the time elapsed since the conviction or release of the individual.

(2) An individual making such request shall include (A) details of the individual's criminal conviction, and (B) any payment required by the commissioner. The commissioner may charge a fee of not more than fifteen dollars for each request made under this subsection. The commissioner may waive such fee.

1168

1169

1170

1171

1172

1173

1174

1175

1176

1179

1180

11811182

1183

1184

1185

1186

1187

1188

1189

1190

1191

1192

1193

1194

1195

1196

11971198

1199

1200

(3) Not later than thirty days after receiving a request under this subsection, the commissioner shall inform the individual making such request whether, based on the criminal record information submitted, such individual is disqualified from receiving or holding a license issued by the department pursuant to this chapter.

- (4) The commissioner is not bound by a determination made under this section, if, upon further investigation, the commissioner determines that the individual's criminal conviction differs from the information presented in the determination request.
- Sec. 27. Section 20-481 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):
 - (a) The department may deny an application of an individual or take any action set forth in section 19a-17, as amended by this act, against a person or entity issued a license or certificate pursuant to sections 20-474 to 20-482, inclusive, and subsections (e) and (f) of section 19a-88 for reasons including, but not limited to, the following: Conviction of a felony, provided any action taken is based upon (1) the nature of the conviction and its relationship to the license or certificate holder's ability to safely or competently perform the work under such license or certificate, (2) information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the license or certificate holder, and (3) the time elapsed since the conviction or release; fraud or deceit in the practice of his profession; negligent, incompetent or wrongful conduct in professional activities; misrepresentation or concealment of a material fact in the obtaining, reinstatement or renewal of a license; or violation of any provision of sections 20-474 to 20-482, inclusive, and subsections (e) and (f) of section 19a-88 or any regulation adopted thereunder. The commissioner may petition the superior court for the judicial district of Hartford to enforce such order or any action taken pursuant to said section 19a-17, as amended by this act. Notice of any contemplated action under said section 19a-17, as amended by this act, the cause of action and the date of a hearing on the action shall be given and an opportunity for hearing afforded in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54.

Sec. 28. Subsection (i) of section 20-540 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October* 1203 1, 2022):

- (i) The Department of Consumer Protection may <u>deny</u>, suspend or revoke <u>an application of</u> a certificate granted or issued by it pursuant to this section if the holder of such certificate is (1) convicted of a felony, provided any action taken is based upon (A) the nature of the conviction and its relationship to the certificate holder's ability to safely or competently perform work under such certificate, (B) information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the certificate holder, and (C) the time elapsed since the conviction or release, (2) is grossly incompetent, (3) engages in malpractice or unethical conduct, or (4) knowingly makes false, misleading or deceptive representations regarding his work. Prior to such suspension or revocation, such holder shall be given notice and an opportunity for hearing as provided in regulations adopted by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection. Any person whose certificate has been suspended may, after ninety days, apply to the department to have such certificate reinstated.
- Sec. 29. Section 20-540 of the general statutes is amended by adding subsection (m) as follows (*Effective October 1, 2022*):
 - (NEW) (m) (1) Any individual who has been convicted of any criminal offense may request, at any time, that the commissioner determine whether such individual's criminal conviction disqualifies the individual from obtaining a license or certificate issued or conferred by the commissioner pursuant to this section. An individual making such request shall include (A) details of the individual's criminal conviction, and (B) any payment required by the commissioner. The commissioner may charge a fee of not more than fifteen dollars for each request made under this subsection. The commissioner may waive such fee.
 - (2) Not later than thirty days after receiving a request under this subsection, the commissioner shall inform the individual making such

request whether, based on the criminal record information submitted, such individual is disqualified from receiving or holding a license or certificate issued pursuant to this section.

1236

1237

1238

1239

- (3) The commissioner is not bound by a determination made under this section, if, upon further investigation, the commissioner determines that the individual's criminal conviction differs from the information presented in the determination request.
- Sec. 30. Section 22a-66e of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):
- 1242 (a) The grounds for denial, revocation or suspension of a registration 1243 shall include, but not be limited to:
- 1244 (1) Violation of any provision of this chapter, as amended, or any 1245 regulation, permit, certificate, registration or order adopted, 1246 administered or issued pursuant thereto;
- 1247 (2) Inclusion of false or misleading information in an application or 1248 failure to notify the commissioner of a change as required by section 1249 22a-66c;
- (3) Inclusion of false or misleading information in records required to be maintained pursuant to section 22a-66g, the failure to maintain such records, or the failure to provide the commissioner with the records required by said section;
- 1254 (4) Use of a pesticide in a manner inconsistent with the registered 1255 labeling or with state or federal restrictions on the use of such pesticide;
- 1256 (5) Application of pesticides generally known in the trade to be 1257 ineffective or improper for the intended use;
- 1258 (6) Operation of faulty or unsafe equipment which may result in 1259 improper application or harm to the environment, the applicator or 1260 others from the pesticide;

1261 (7) Application of a pesticide in a faulty, careless or negligent manner;

- 1262 (8) Aiding or abetting a certified or uncertified person to evade the 1263 provisions of this chapter, as amended, or any regulation, permit, 1264 certificate, registration or order adopted, administered or issued 1265 pursuant thereto;
- 1266 (9) The making of a false or misleading statement during an inspection or investigation concerning an infestation of pests, an accident in applying a pesticide, misuse of a pesticide, or violation of a statute, regulation, certificate, registration or order;
- 1270 (10) The performance of work, whether or not for compensation, in a 1271 category for which the applicator is not certified; and

1272

1273

1274

1275

1276

1277

1278

1279

1280

1281

1282

1283

1284

1285

1286

- (11) The conviction of the applicant or <u>owner of a</u> pesticide application business of a felony, as defined in section 53a-25, <u>provided</u> any action taken is based upon (A) the nature of the conviction and its relationship to the applicant's or owner's ability to safely or competently <u>perform the work under such registration</u>, (B) information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the applicant or owner, and (C) the time elapsed since the conviction or release.
 - (b) Any pesticide application business whose certificate of registration is denied, suspended or revoked shall not be eligible for a new certificate until such time has elapsed from the date of the denial, suspension or revocation as has been established by the commissioner.
- (c) A new certificate or renewal of a certificate shall not be issued to a commercial applicator unless the applicant has submitted the summary required pursuant to subsection (d) of section 22a-58, for the previous calendar year.
- (d) (1) Any individual who has been convicted of any criminal offense
 may request, at any time, that the commissioner determine whether
 such individual's criminal conviction disqualifies the individual from
 obtaining registration issued or conferred by the commissioner

1291 pursuant to this chapter based on (A) the nature of the conviction and 1292 its relationship to the individual's ability to safely or competently 1293 perform the duties or responsibilities associated with such license, (B) 1294 information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the individual, 1295 and (C) the time elapsed since the conviction or release of the individual.

1296

1297

1298

1299

1300

1321

- (2) An individual making such request shall include (A) details of the individual's criminal conviction, and (B) any payment required by the commissioner. The commissioner may charge a fee of not more than fifteen dollars for each request made under this subsection. The commissioner may waive such fee.
- 1301 (3) Not later than thirty days after receiving a request under this 1302 subsection, the commissioner shall inform the individual making such request whether, based on the criminal record information submitted, 1303 1304 such individual is disqualified from receiving or holding a registration 1305 issued pursuant to this chapter.
- 1306 (4) The commissioner is not bound by a determination made under this section, if, upon further investigation, the commissioner determines 1307 1308 that the individual's criminal conviction differs from the information 1309 presented in the determination request.
- 1310 Sec. 31. Section 23-61i of the general statutes is repealed and the 1311 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):
- 1312 (a) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall, 1313 after review of a complete application submitted in accordance with the 1314 provisions of section 23-61h, issue or deny a certificate of registration. 1315 The commissioner shall inform an applicant of a denial of a certificate of 1316 registration by certified mail, return receipt requested. The 1317 commissioner shall briefly state the reasons, as listed in subsection (c) of 1318 this section, for such denial. Any applicant aggrieved by the 1319 commissioner's decision to deny a certificate of registration may, not 1320 later than thirty days after the date of such decision, request a hearing before the commissioner. Such hearing shall be held in accordance with 1322 the provisions of chapter 54.

1323 (b) The commissioner may revoke or suspend a certificate of registration in accordance with the provisions of subsection (c) of this section and section 4-182.

- (c) The grounds for denial, revocation or suspension of a certificate of registration shall include the following:
- 1328 (1) Violation of any provision of this chapter or chapter 441 or any regulation, permit, certificate, registration or order adopted, issued or administered or issued pursuant to this chapter and chapter 441;

1326

1327

- 1331 (2) Inclusion of false or misleading information in an application or 1332 the failure to notify the commissioner of a change, as required by section 1333 23-61h;
- 1334 (3) Inclusion of false or misleading information in records required to be maintained pursuant to section 23-61k, or the failure to maintain such records or provide the commissioner with the records required by section 23-61k;
- 1338 (4) Use of a pesticide in a manner inconsistent with the registered 1339 labeling or with state or federal restrictions on the use of such pesticide;
- 1340 (5) Application of pesticides generally known in the trade to be 1341 ineffective or improper for the intended use;
- 1342 (6) Operation of faulty or unsafe equipment which may result in 1343 improper pesticide application or harm to the environment, a worker or 1344 other persons;
- 1345 (7) Application of a pesticide or performance of arboriculture in a 1346 faulty, careless or negligent manner;
- 1347 (8) Aiding or abetting a licensed or unlicensed person to evade the 1348 provisions of this chapter or chapter 441 or any regulation, permit, 1349 certificate, registration or order adopted, issued or administered 1350 pursuant to this chapter and chapter 441;

(9) The making of a false or misleading statement during an inspection or investigation concerning an infestation of pests, an accident in applying a pesticide, misuse of a pesticide, or violation of a statute, regulation, certificate, registration or order;

- 1355 (10) The performance of arboriculture which does not meet generally accepted industry standards;
- 1357 (11) The performance of work, whether or not for compensation, in a 1358 category for which the arborist is not certified; and
- 1359 (12) The conviction of the applicant of a felony, as defined in section
 1360 53a-25, provided any action taken is based upon (A) the nature of the
 1361 conviction and its relationship to the applicant's or certificate holder's
 1362 ability to safely or competently perform the work under such
 1363 certification, (B) information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of
 1364 the applicant or certificate holder, and (C) the time elapsed since the
 1365 conviction or release.
 - (d) Any arborist business whose certificate of registration is denied, suspended or revoked shall not be eligible to reapply for a certificate of registration until the commissioner determines that such applicant may reapply.
 - (e) The commissioner shall not issue a certificate of registration or a renewal of a certificate of registration to an arborist business unless such arborist business submits the summary required pursuant to subsection (d) of section 22a-58 for the previous calendar year.
 - (f) (1) Any individual who has been convicted of any criminal offense may request, at any time, that the commissioner determine whether such individual's criminal conviction disqualifies the individual from obtaining a certificate issued or conferred by the commissioner pursuant to this section based on (A) the nature of the conviction and its relationship to the individual's ability to safely or competently perform the duties or responsibilities associated with such license, (B) information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the individual,

and (C) the time elapsed since the conviction or release of the individual.

- (2) An individual making such request shall include (A) details of the individual's criminal conviction, and (B) any payment required by the commissioner. The commissioner may charge a fee of not more than fifteen dollars for each request made under this subsection. The commissioner may waive such fee.
- (3) Not later than thirty days after receiving a request under this
 subsection, the commissioner shall inform the individual making such
 request whether, based on the criminal record information submitted,
 such individual is disqualified from receiving or holding a certificate
 issued pursuant this section.

- (4) The commissioner is not bound by a determination made under this section, if, upon further investigation, the commissioner determines that the individual's criminal conviction differs from the information presented in the determination request.
- Sec. 32. Section 29-154a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):
 - (a) The commissioner may grant a private detective or private detective agency license to any suitable person, or to any corporation, association or partnership subject to the following qualifications: The applicant for a private detective or private detective agency license shall be not less than twenty-five years of age and of good moral character and shall have had at least five years' experience as a full-time investigator, as determined in regulations adopted by the commissioner pursuant to section 29-161, or shall have had at least ten years' experience as a police officer with a state or organized municipal police department. Employment as a security officer shall not be considered as employment as an investigator. If the applicant is a corporation, association or partnership, the person filing the application on behalf of such corporation, association or partnership shall meet the qualifications set forth in this section for an individual applicant, and shall be an officer of such corporation or member of such association or

1414 partnership. If the commissioner grants a private detective or private 1415 detective agency license to an applicant based on such applicant's 1416 experience as an investigator with an organized municipal fire 1417 department, such license shall restrict such licensee to performing the 1418 same type of investigations as were performed for the municipal fire 1419

department.

1420

1421

1422

1423

- (b) The commissioner may, at the commissioner's discretion, substitute up to one year of experience for a private detective or private detective agency applicant upon proof of satisfactory participation in a course of instruction pertinent to the license applied for.
- 1424 (c) No license shall be issued to any person who has been (1) 1425 convicted of any felony, (2) convicted of any misdemeanor under 1426 section 21a-279, 53a-58, 53a-61, 53a-61a, 53a-62, 53a-63, 53a-96, 53a-175, 1427 53a-176, 53a-178 or 53a-181d, or equivalent conviction in another 1428 jurisdiction, within the past seven years, (3) convicted of any offense 1429 involving moral turpitude, or (4) discharged from military service under 1430 conditions that demonstrate questionable moral character.
- 1431 (d) Any applicant who has been denied a license may appeal in 1432 writing to the commissioner not later than thirty days after receipt of 1433 such denial.
- 1434 (e) (1) Any individual who has been convicted of any criminal offense 1435 may request, at any time, that the commissioner determine whether 1436 such individual's criminal conviction disqualifies the individual from obtaining a license or registration issued or conferred by the 1437 1438 commissioner pursuant to this chapter based on (A) the nature of the 1439 conviction and its relationship to the individual's ability to safely or 1440 competently perform the duties or responsibilities associated with such 1441 license, (B) information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the 1442 individual, and (C) the time elapsed since the conviction or release of 1443 the individual.
- 1444 (2) An individual making such request shall include (A) details of the individual's criminal conviction, and (B) any payment required by the 1445

1446 commissioner. The commissioner may charge a fee of not more than 1447 fifteen dollars for each request made under this subsection. The 1448 commissioner may waive such fee.

1449

1450

1451

1452

1453

1460

1461

1462

1463

1464

1465

1466

1467

1468

1469

1470

1471

1472

1473

1474

1475

1476

1477

- (3) Not later than thirty days after receiving a request under this subsection, the commissioner shall inform the individual making such request whether, based on the criminal record information submitted, such individual is disqualified from receiving or holding a license or registration issued pursuant this chapter.
- (4) The commissioner is not bound by a determination made under
 this section, if, upon further investigation, the commissioner determines
 that the individual's criminal conviction differs from the information
 presented in the determination request.
- Sec. 33. Section 29-158 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

Any license or registration issued under the provisions of sections 29-153 to 29-161, inclusive, may be suspended or revoked by the commissioner, after giving notice and an opportunity to be heard to the licensee or registrant when the commissioner finds that the licensee or registrant has: (1) Violated any of the terms or provisions of sections 29-153 to 29-161, inclusive, or any of the regulations adopted thereunder; (2) practiced fraud, deceit or misrepresentation in dealing with the clients of the licensee or registrant; (3) made a material misstatement in the application for issuance of such license or registration, or, in the case of a licensee, in the application for renewal of such license; (4) demonstrated incompetence or untrustworthiness in the conduct of the business; or (5) been convicted of a felony or other crime involving moral turpitude, provided any action taken is based upon (A) the nature of the conviction and its relationship to the licensee's or registrant's ability to safely or competently perform the work under such license or registration, (B) information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the licensee or registrant, and (C) the time elapsed since the conviction or release. If the licensee or registrant has been convicted under section

53a-61 or 53a-62, the commissioner shall consider the facts and circumstances surrounding such conviction prior to suspending or revoking the license or registration. Any party aggrieved by an order of the commissioner under the provisions of this section may appeal therefrom in accordance with the provisions of section 4-183, except the venue for such appeal shall be the judicial district of New Britain.

Sec. 34. Section 29-161v of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

1484

1485

1486

1487

1488

1489

14901491

1492

1493

1494

1495

1496

1497

1498

1499

1500

15011502

1503

1504

1505

1506

1507

1508

1509

1510

(a) Any license for a security service or security officer or approval as a security officer instructor may be suspended or revoked by the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, provided notice shall have been given to the licensee or instructor to appear before the commissioner to show cause why the license or approval should not be suspended or revoked, upon a finding by the commissioner that: (1) The licensee has violated any of the terms or provisions of sections 29-161g to 29-161x, inclusive, or in the case of an instructor, section 29-161q, or any of the regulations adopted pursuant to section 29-161x; (2) the licensee or instructor has practiced fraud, deceit or misrepresentation; (3) the licensee or instructor has made a material misstatement in the application for issuance or renewal of the license or approval; (4) the licensee or instructor has demonstrated incompetence untrustworthiness in the conduct of the business; or (5) the licensee or instructor has been convicted of a felony, provided any action taken is based upon (A) the nature of the conviction and its relationship to the licensee's or instructor's ability to safely or competently perform the work under such license or approval, (B) information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the licensee or instructor, and (C) the time elapsed since the conviction or release or [other] a crime affecting the licensee's <u>or instructor's</u> honesty [,] <u>or integrity.</u> [or moral fitness.] Any party aggrieved by an order of the commissioner under this section may appeal therefrom in accordance with the provisions of section 4-183, except the venue for such appeal shall be the judicial district of New Britain.

(b) (1) Any individual who has been convicted of any criminal offense may request, at any time, that the commissioner determine whether such individual's criminal conviction disqualifies the individual from obtaining a license issued or conferred by the commissioner pursuant to this chapter based on (A) the nature of the conviction and its relationship to the individual's ability to safely or competently perform the duties or responsibilities associated with such license, (B) information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the individual, and (C) the time elapsed since the conviction or release of the individual.

- (2) An individual making such request shall include (A) details of the individual's criminal conviction, and (B) any payment required by the commissioner. The commissioner may charge a fee of not more than fifteen dollars for each request made under this subsection. The commissioner may waive such fee.
- (3) Not later than thirty days after receiving a request under this subsection, the commissioner shall inform the individual making such request whether, based on the criminal record information submitted, such individual is disqualified from receiving or holding a license issued pursuant this chapter.
- (4) The commissioner is not bound by a determination made under
 this section, if, upon further investigation, the commissioner determines
 that the individual's criminal conviction differs from the information
 presented in the determination request.
- Sec. 35. Section 30-47 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1*, 2022):
- (a) The Department of Consumer Protection may, in its discretion, suspend, revoke or refuse to grant or renew a permit for the sale of alcoholic liquor if it has reasonable cause to believe: (1) That the applicant or permittee appears to be financially irresponsible or neglects to provide for his family, or neglects or is unable to pay his just debts; (2) that the applicant or permittee has been provided with funds by any wholesaler or manufacturer or has any forbidden connection with any

15431544

1545

1546

1547

1548

1549

1550

1551

1552

1553

1554

1555

1556

1557

1558

1559

1560

1561

1562

1563

1564

1565

1566

1567

1568

1569

1570

1571

1572

1573

1574

1575

other class of permittee as provided in this chapter; (3) that the applicant or permittee is in the habit of using alcoholic beverages to excess; (4) that the applicant or permittee has wilfully made any false statement to the department in a material matter; (5) that the applicant or permittee has been convicted of violating any of the liquor laws of this or any other state or the liquor laws of the United States or has been convicted of a felony as such term is defined in section 53a-25, provided any action taken is based upon (A) the nature of the conviction and its relationship to the applicant or permittee's ability to safely or competently perform the duties associated with such permit, (B) information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the applicant or permittee, and (C) the time elapsed since the conviction or release, or has such a criminal record that the department reasonably believes he is not a suitable person to hold a permit, provided no refusal shall be rendered under this subdivision except in accordance with the provisions of sections 46a-80 and 46a-81; (6) that the applicant or permittee has not been delegated full authority and control of the permit premises and of the conduct of all business on such premises; or (7) that the applicant or permittee has violated any provision of this chapter or any regulation adopted under this chapter. Any backer shall be subject to the same disqualifications as provided in this section in the case of an applicant for a permit or a permittee.

- (b) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may, in his or her discretion, require a permittee who has had his or her permit for the sale of alcoholic liquor suspended or revoked pursuant to subsection (a) of this section to have such permittee's employees participate in an alcohol seller and server training program approved by the commissioner. The commissioner may require proof of completion of the program from the permittee prior to reactivation or reissuance of such permit.
- (c) In lieu of suspending or revoking a permit for the sale of alcoholic liquor pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, the commissioner may require a permittee to have such permittee's employees participate in an alcohol seller and server training program.
- (d) (1) Any individual who has been convicted of any criminal offense

may request, at any time, that the commissioner determine whether such individual's criminal conviction disqualifies the individual from obtaining a permit issued or conferred by the department pursuant to this chapter based on (A) the nature of the conviction and its relationship to the individual's ability to safely or competently perform the duties or responsibilities associated with such permit, (B) information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the individual, and (C) the time elapsed since the conviction or release of the individual.

- (2) An individual making such request shall include (A) details of the individual's criminal conviction, and (B) any payment required by the commissioner. The commissioner may charge a fee of not more than fifteen dollars for each request made under this subsection. The department may waive such fee.
- (3) Not later than thirty days after receiving a request under this subsection, the commissioner shall inform the individual making such request whether, based on the criminal record information submitted, such individual is disqualified from receiving or holding a permit issued pursuant to this chapter.
 - (4) The commissioner is not bound by a determination made under this section, if, upon further investigation, the commissioner determines that the individual's criminal conviction differs from the information presented in the determination request.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2022	19a-14(a)
Sec. 2	October 1, 2022	19a-17(a)
Sec. 3	October 1, 2022	20-1950
Sec. 4	October 1, 2022	20-195p
Sec. 5	October 1, 2022	20-195cc
Sec. 6	October 1, 2022	20-195ee
Sec. 7	October 1, 2022	20-195000
Sec. 8	October 1, 2022	20-195qqq
Sec. 9	October 1, 2022	20-206n

sHB5248 / File No. 627

Sec. 10	October 1, 2022	20-206s
Sec. 11	October 1, 2022	20-265b(i)
Sec. 12	October 1, 2022	20-265b
Sec. 13	October 1, 2022	20-265c(i)
Sec. 14	October 1, 2022	20-265c
Sec. 15	October 1, 2022	20-265d(i)
Sec. 16	October 1, 2022	20-265d
Sec. 17	October 1, 2022	20-280e
Sec. 18	October 1, 2022	20-281a
Sec. 19	October 1, 2022	20-291
Sec. 20	October 1, 2022	20-294
Sec. 21	October 1, 2022	20-334
Sec. 22	October 1, 2022	20-341gg
Sec. 23	October 1, 2022	20-361
Sec. 24	October 1, 2022	20-363
Sec. 25	October 1, 2022	20-442a
Sec. 26	October 1, 2022	20-475
Sec. 27	October 1, 2022	20-481
Sec. 28	October 1, 2022	20-540(i)
Sec. 29	October 1, 2022	20-540
Sec. 30	October 1, 2022	22a-66e
Sec. 31	October 1, 2022	23-61i
Sec. 32	October 1, 2022	29-154a
Sec. 33	October 1, 2022	29-158
Sec. 34	October 1, 2022	29-161v
Sec. 35	October 1, 2022	30-47

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 23 \$	FY 24 \$
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Potential	See Below	See Below
	Revenue Gain		

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill results in a potential revenue gain from licensing fees by limiting circumstances in which a person's occupational license can be denied, revoked, or suspended.

The bill also allows an individual convicted of a criminal offense to request in writing if the conviction disqualifies them from obtaining a license and allows Commissioners to charge up to a \$15 fee for this service. To the extent individuals request this service and a fee is charged, this results in a potential revenue gain to the state.

House "A" strikes the underlying bill and its associated fiscal impact resulting in the impact described above.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the number of occupational licenses that haven't been revoked, denied, or suspended and the number of request fees paid to Commissioners.

OLR Bill Analysis sHB 5248 (as amended by House "A")*

AN ACT CONCERNING COLLATERAL CONSEQUENCES OF CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS ON OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING.

SUMMARY

This bill limits the circumstances under which various agencies, boards, and commissions that issue occupational licenses (including certificates and permits) may take certain actions against a practitioner because the practitioner was found guilty or convicted of a felony (e.g., denying, revoking, or suspending a license). More specifically, it only allows them to do so if the decision is based on (1) the nature of the conviction and its relationship to the practitioner's ability to perform the occupation's duties or responsibilities safely or competently, (2) information about the practitioner's degree of rehabilitation, and (3) the time passed since the conviction or release.

The bill also creates a process for individuals who were convicted of a crime to find out whether their conviction would disqualify them from practicing these occupations. To do so, they generally must provide information about the conviction to the relevant licensing entity, which must respond within 30 days.

For certain occupations, the bill also prohibits the relevant licensing entities from taking certain disciplinary actions summarily (immediately) upon learning that a practitioner was found guilty or convicted of a felony (§ 2).

The law generally authorizes the Department of Health (DPH) to deny an occupational permit or license for an applicant who has been found guilty or convicted of a felony (in Connecticut, under federal law, or in any other jurisdiction if it would have been a felony in

Connecticut). Under current law, however, DPH cannot do this for barbers, hairdressers, or cosmeticians. The bill broadens this exception to also cover licenses for embalmers and funeral directors (§ 1).

*House Amendment "A" replaces the underlying bill (File 379). It (1) adds the provision that creates a process for individuals to find out if their conviction disqualifies them from practicing an occupation, (2) generally broadens the available disciplinary actions to include denying a license or credential, and (3) requires that disciplinary actions for a felony conviction meet the three-part criteria.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2022

LICENSE DENIALS AND OTHER DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS FOR CONVICTIONS

Current law allows the various occupational licensing boards or commissions and state agencies to take certain disciplinary actions against a practitioner who was convicted of a felony, or for certain other reasons that may vary depending on the occupation (e.g., failure to meet professional standards; fraud). Depending on the occupation, these may include revoking or suspending a license or permit, censuring or reprimanding the practitioner, limiting or restricting the practitioner's practice, placing the practitioner on probationary status, or assessing a civil penalty.

The bill generally adds denying a license, certificate, or permit to the types of disciplinary actions that these licensing entities may take. (In some instances, existing law already allows for a denial.) But if the action is taken because of a practitioner's conviction of a felony, the bill requires that it be based on (1) the nature of the conviction and its relationship to the practitioner's ability to perform the associated duties or responsibilities safely or competently, (2) information about practitioner's degree of rehabilitation, and (3) the time passed since the conviction or release. These criteria generally align with a similar provision in the state's anti-discrimination law (see BACKGROUND).

Table 1 shows the occupations to which these bill provisions apply.

Below the table is additional information about the bill's differences for licensing architects; private detectives, detective businesses, and investigators; and security services, security officers, and security officer instructors.

Table 1: Occupations with Disciplinary Actions Limited by the Bill

Bill Sections	Statutes (CGS §)	Occupation
3-4	20-1950	Clinical social worker and master social worker
	20-195p	
5-6	20-195cc	Professional counselor
	20-195ee	
7-8	20-195000	Art therapist
	20-195qqq	
9-10	20-206n	Dietician-nutritionist
	20-206s	
11-12	20-265b	Esthetician
13-14	20-265c	Eyelash technician
15-16	20-265d	Nail technician
17-18	20-280e	Public accountant
	20-281a	
19-20	20-291	Architect
	20-294	
21	20-334	Tradesperson in electrical; plumbing and piping; solar; heating, piping, cooling, and sheet metal; fire protection sprinkler systems; elevator installation, repair, and maintenance; irrigation; automotive glass; flat glass; or gas hearth work field
		Residential stair lift technician; swimming pool builder (and other occupations covered by Chapter 393)
22	20-341gg	Major contractor
23-24	20-361	Sanitarian*
	20-363	

25	20-442a	Asbestos contractor and consultant
26-27	20-475	Lead abatement consultant, contractor, and worker
	20-481	
28-29	20-540	Public service gas technician
30	22a-66e	Pesticide application business*
31	23-61i	Arborist business*
32-33	29-154a	Private detective, detective business, or investigator
	29-158	
34	29-161v	Security service, security officer, or security officer instructor
35	30-47	Liquor permittee*

^{*}Current law already allows license denial as a disciplinary action

Architects (§§ 19-20)

Neither current law nor the bill explicitly allows denying an architect license as a disciplinary action. The bill's limits only apply to license suspensions or revocations, censures, and civil penalties imposed due to a felony conviction.

Private Detective, Detective Business, or Investigator (§§ 32-33)

Existing law, unchanged by the bill, prohibits issuing these licenses to individuals convicted of any felony or certain specified misdemeanors. The bill's limits only apply to suspending or revoking these licenses when the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) commissioner finds that the licensee or registrant has been convicted of a felony or other crime involving moral turpitude.

Security Service, Security Officer, or Security Officer Instructors (§ 34)

Neither current law nor the bill explicitly allows denying these licenses as a disciplinary action. The bill's limits only apply to these license suspensions or revocations when the DESPP commissioner finds that the licensee or instructor has been convicted of a felony.

Current law also allows these licenses to be suspended or revoked if

the licensee is convicted of a crime affecting the licensee's honesty, integrity, or moral fitness. The bill removes crimes affecting the licensee's moral fitness from the types of crimes for which the license may be suspended or revoked.

PROCESS TO LEARN ABOUT DISQUALIFICATION

For all of the occupations listed in Table 1 above, the bill creates a process through which people who were convicted of a crime can learn whether their conviction would disqualify them from attaining the relevant license, certificate, or permit.

Under the bill, anyone convicted of a crime may ask the relevant licensing authority at any time to determine whether the conviction disqualifies him or her from obtaining the applicable license based on (1) the nature of the conviction and its relationship to the person's ability to perform the associated duties or responsibilities safely or competently, (2) information about the person's degree of rehabilitation, and (3) the time elapsed since the person's conviction or release.

The person must include details about the conviction and any required payment. The bill allows the licensing entities to charge a fee of up to \$15 per request, which may be waived. The applicable licensing entity must respond within 30 days after receiving the request and inform the person whether, based on the criminal record information submitted, he or she is disqualified from receiving or holding the relevant license, permit, or certificate.

The bill specifies that the licensing entity is not bound by its determination if, upon further investigation, it determines that the person's conviction differs from the information presented in the determination request.

IMMEDIATE DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

Current law allows various occupational licensing boards or commissions and DPH to take certain actions against a practitioner summarily if they receive proof that the practitioner was found guilty

or convicted of a felony. These disciplinary actions include summarily revoking or suspending a license or permit, censuring or reprimanding the practitioner, limiting or restricting the practitioner's practice, placing the practitioner on probationary status, and assessing a civil penalty up to \$25,000.

Under the bill, these disciplinary actions cannot be taken summarily against licensed clinical social workers and master social workers, art therapists, dietician-nutritionists, embalmers or funeral directors, barbers, hairdressers, cosmeticians, estheticians, eyelash technicians, or nail technicians who were found guilty or convicted of a felony.

BACKGROUND

Anti-discrimination Law

The state's anti-discrimination law generally prohibits someone from being disqualified to practice any occupation that requires a state-issued license solely because of a prior criminal conviction. However, such a person may be denied a license after considering (1) the nature of the crime and its relationship to the job; (2) information about the person's degree of rehabilitation; and (3) the time elapsed since the conviction or release (CGS § 46a-80).

COMMITTEE ACTION

Labor and Public Employees Committee

Joint Favorable Yea 13 Nay 0 (03/24/2022)